

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-50 in the application. In previous responses, the Applicants amended Claims 1-4, 8-10, 21-22, 28, 30, 39, 41, 43, 45, and 49-50 and added Claims 51-52. In the present response, the Applicants have amended Claims 1-2, 5-6, 8, 10-11, 17, 20-22, 26, 28-29, 30-31, 37, and 40-41. Support for the amendment can be found, for example, in paragraphs 116 and 117 of the original specification. No other claims have been cancelled or added. Accordingly, Claims 1-52 are currently pending in the application.

I. Formal Matters and Objections

The Examiner has objected to independent Claims 1 and 21 and claims dependent thereon as containing informalities. In response, the Applicants have amended Claims 1-2, 5-6, 8, 10-11, 17, 20-22, 26, 28, 30-31, 37, and 40 to correct these inadvertent errors and appreciate the Examiner's diligence in finding and bringing these errors to their attention. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the objection to independent Claims 1 and 21 and claims dependent thereon and allow issuance thereof. Additionally, the Applicants have amended Claims 8, 11, and 29 in order to correct inadvertent errors.

II. Rejection of Claims 1-52 under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-52 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,112,183 to Swanson, *et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,022,017 to Halbritter, *et al.* The Applicants respectfully disagree. More specifically, the Applicants disagree since the

cited combination of Swanson and Halbritter does not teach or suggest determining whether accessing multiple entries of data stored in an ancillary system is required before processing the data into a value as recited in independent Claims 1, 21, and 41.

As discussed in the interview with the Examiner, the invention as claimed provides accessibility to data possibly at the expense of the freshness of data. (See paragraph 151.) Hence, amended independent Claims 1, 21, and 41 determine whether accessing multiple entries of data stored in an identified ancillary system is required before processing the data into a value. Additionally, the independent claims include retrieving data based on the determination, retrieving data from the enterprise data processing system if accessing multiple entries is required, and retrieving the data from the identified ancillary system if accessing multiple entries is not required. Thus, accessibility of data is enhanced, perhaps at the expense of freshness, when data is retrieved from the enterprise data system if multiple entries of data are required.

The Examiner has stated that Swanson does not explicitly teach determining whether accessing multiple entries of the data stored in an ancillary system is required before processing the data into the value or retrieving data based on that determination. (See Examiner's Action, mailed September 26, 2006, page 4.) To cure these deficiencies, the Examiner cites Halbritter. (See Examiner's Action, mailed September 26, 2006, page 5.) As agreed upon during the interview with the Examiner, Halbritter does not cure the noted deficiencies of Swanson. While Halbritter may determine access to multiple systems, *e.g.*, amenities server 104 or transaction processor subsystem 404, it does not determine whether accessing multiple entries of data stored in those systems is required. As such, the cited combination of Swanson and Halbritter does not provide a *prima facie*

case of obviousness of independent claims 1, 21, and 41 and Claims dependent thereon. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the §103(a) rejection of Claims 1-52 and allow issuance thereof.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-52.

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, credits or overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2395.

Respectfully submitted,

HITT GAINES, PC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Joel Justiss", is written over the printed name.

J. Joel Justiss
Registration No. 48.981

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P.O. Box 832570
Richardson, Texas 75083
(972) 480-8800